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Patent

Attorney's Docket No. 004900-148

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Patent Application of |) | |
| |) | |
| Evelyne PRAT et al. |) | Group Art Unit: 1754 |
| |) | |
| Application No.: CPA of 08/765,901 |) | Examiner: S. Hendrickson |
| |) | |
| Filed: January 7, 1997 |) | |
| |) | |
| For: CONCENTRATED SUSPENSION |) | |
| PRECIPITATION SILICA, |) | |
| METHODS OF PREPARATION |) | |
| AND UTILISATION OF SAID |) | |
| SUSPENSION |) | |



REPLY AND AMENDMENTS PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
AND SUBMISSION OF DECLARATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action [final rejection] mailed September 15, 1999,
kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

31. (Twice Amended) A method for the preparation of an aqueous suspension
of precipitated silica, having a solids content between 10 and 40% by weight, a viscosity
lower than 4×10^{-2} Pa.s at a shear rate of 50 s^{-1} and wherein the amount of silica present